



DIRECTORATE OF  
INTELLIGENCE

# Intelligence Memorandum

*South Arabia*

**Secret**

23

24 July 1967  
No. 1368/67

RETURN TO ARCHIVES & RECORDS CENTER

IMMEDIATELY AFTER USE

10879-F826 BOX 24

216149



## WARNING

This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, sections 793 and 794, of the US Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

GROUP 1  
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC  
DOWNGRADING AND  
DECLASSIFICATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Directorate of Intelligence  
24 July 1967

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

South Arabia

Summary

Britain has taken the first step toward forming a representative government to succeed the South Arabian Federation government. On 5 July the Supreme Federal Council, the governing body of the federation, appointed an Adeni moderate, Husayn Bayumi, as prime minister - designate to form a caretaker government until independence, now scheduled for 9 January 1968. According to present plans, elections will then be held and a permanent government established.

vital question, however, is whether it is not already too late to achieve any kind of order out of the present chaos of tribal feuds, ethnic prejudices, social backwardness, and political machinations by other Arab states such as Egypt.

1. Aden is today an armed camp, with assassination and terrorism commonplace. In June there were 445 incidents in Aden alone, compared with 376 in April and a peak figure of 80 per month last fall. Known casualties due to incidents in Aden for the first half of 1967 are 116 killed and 527 wounded.

25X1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the great majority of casualties have been Arab.

25X1

[REDACTED] Terror and destruction have almost reached the point where Aden will soon have no trade, nor will it have the bankers or traders needed to revive commerce after peace is restored.

X1

25X6

25X6

25X6

25X1

25X10

25X1

25X10

25X6

25X6

#### Efforts to Resolve Differences

6. When conditions in South Arabia began to deteriorate swiftly, all parties involved began to search for some compromise solution. Several states tried to intervene and the UN sent missions to assess the situation, all to no avail. With the onset of the Arab-Israeli war, the situation became even more murky. Many South Arabians, believing that Britain and the US were behind Israel's success, were even more antagonistic about negotiating with Britain.

7. On 19 June the British Foreign Secretary announced that independence, long scheduled for the end of 1968, would take place on 9 January 1968. He said that London would increase its commitments of military aid to about \$168 million over a three-year period and would station a naval force for six

25X1

X1  
X1

X1

25X1

25X

25X6

25X6

- 4 -

At the time of the uprising in the Crater district, there was strong sentiment in Britain for pulling out early. Even if London hangs on until 9 January, as now seems likely, the successor government may well take on an increasingly pro-Nasir tinge. Britain might in that case reconsider contributing \$168 million to arm a pro-Nasir army in South Arabia, whatever commitments may have been made.

11. The lack of British assistance and trade would sharply limit the future of South Arabia. Egypt does not possess the economic strength to fill the vacuum [redacted]

25X6

[redacted] To date no other state has shown any interest in bailing South Arabia out of its political and economic mire, and the UN is unlikely to accept large-scale responsibility there.

85X1

Approved For Release 2005/08/01 : CIA-RDP79T00826A002400250001-2

Next 3 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Approved For Release 2005/08/01 : CIA-RDP79T00826A002400250001-2